

Message Text

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54

ACTION CU-03

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 AF-08 ARA-06 EA-07 NEA-10 CPR-01 OPR-02 /096 W

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P R 161525Z JUL 76

FM AMEMBASSY ATHENS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5572

INFO AMEMASSY OTTAWA

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1. IN AN IMPRESSIVE CEREMONY AT THE PANATHENEAN STADIUM ON EVENING OF JULY 15, THE PRESIDENT OF THE HELLENIC OLYMPIC COMMITTEE HANDED THE OLYMPIC FLAME OVER TO A CANADIAN REPRESENTATIVE. AN ORDERLY BUT ENTHUSIASTIC CROWD OF ABOUT 25,000 PERSONS, HEADED BY THE PRESIDENT AND THE PRIME MINISTER OF THE HELLENIC REPUBLIC, THE DIPLOMATIC CORPS, AND SENIOR GOG CIVILIAN AND MILITARY OFFICIALS, WITNESSED THE EVENT.

2. PRES. TSATSOS AND PRIMIN CARAMANLIS RECEIVED ROUSING OVATIONS ON ARRIVAL AND DEPARTURE. SPONTANEITY OF CROWD REACTION WAS EVIDENT AS IT ROLLED ACROSS STADIUM AS THESE GREEK LEADERS MADE THEIR WAY ALONG RUNNING TRACK TO AND FROM SEATS IN TRIBUNE FOR HONORED BUESTS. BOTH RESPONDED WARMLY, WAVING TO THE CHEERING CROWD.

3. AT CONCLUSION OF CEREMONY, PRESIDENT OF HELLENIC OLYMPIC COMMITTEE PRESENTED A CONCHYLIAN STONE FROM ANCIENT OLYMPIA TO A REPRESENTATIVE FROM EACH COUNTRY WHICH HAS BEEN HOST FOR AN OLYMPIAD. STONE IS MOUNTED ON WOODEN BASE, WITH SMALL PLAQUE, AND ENCASED IN CLEAR PLASTIC. WE PLAN TO DISPLAY IT AT EMBASSY FOR ABOUT ONE MONTH BEFORE FORWARDING IT

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TO WASHINGTON.

KUBISCH

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Message Attributes

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